DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 440 779 PS 028 537

AUTHOR	Adams, Leah, Ed.; Kostell, Patricia, Ed.
TITLE	Quotations for Early Childhood Educators.
INSTITUTION	Association for Childhood Education International, Wheaton, MD.; World Organization for Early Childhood (Hong Kong).
ISBN	ISBN-0-87173-146-0
PUB DATE	1998-00-00
NOTE	62p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Association for Childhood Education International, 17904 Georgia Avenue, Suite 215, Olney, MD 20832. Tel: 800-423-3563 (Toll Free); Tel: 301-570-2111; Fax: 301-570-2212; Web site: http://www.udel.edu/bateman/acei.
PUB TYPE	Opinion Papers (120)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Child Rearing; Children; Community; *Early Childhood Education; *Family (Sociological Unit); Global Approach; *Learning; Parent Child Relationship; Play; Teacher Student Relationship; *Teaching (Occupation); World Views; *Young Children
IDENTIFIERS	Family Community Relationship; Folk Wisdom; *Quotations; Wisdom

ABSTRACT

This book provides a compilation of quotations related to young children and early childhood education. The quotations (with authors listed) are grouped in three parts. Those in Part 1 concern children and childhood, including quotations related to children in general among us, children at play, and raising children. Quotations in Part 2 relate to education, teaching, and learning, focusing on education for all children, teaching young children, and learning and wisdom. Those in Part 3 relate to families and communities, focusing on the universal family, the global community, and children and the future. (KB)

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Quotations for Early Childhood Educators

Leah Adams and
Patricia Kostell, Editors

PS 028637

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A joint publication of the U.S. National Committee (OMEP-USNC) of the World Organization for Early Childhood Education (Organisation Mondiale pour l'Education Préscolaire) and the Association for Childhood Education International.

Deborah Jordan Kravitz, Production and Design
Anne W. Bauer, Editor

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17904 Georgia Ave., Ste. 215, Olney, MD 20832

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Quotations for early childhood educators/Leah Adams and Patricia Kostell, editors.
p. cm.
Includes index.
ISBN 0-87173-146-0
1. Children--Quotations. 2. Education--Quotations, maxims, etc. 3. Family--Quotations, maxims, etc. I. Adams, Leah. II. Kostell, Patricia.
PN6338.C5Q68 1998
305.23--dc21 98-35907
CIP

For the Children of the World and
Those Who Teach and Care for Them

Our gratitude to Sadie D. Ginsberg, Rebecca A. Mauzy, Elisabeth Schumacher, Margaret A. Stant, and all the other OMEP-USNC members who prepared the first edition.

Thanks to all who are quoted, to the ACEI publication staff, and to those who suggested quotes, especially Lenore Wineberg. Thanks, also, to Fred Ebbeck for proofreading, and to Tim G. Adams and George D. Kostell, whose patient support made this publication a reality.

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Introduction

I hate quotations.
Tell me what you know.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Unlike Ralph Waldo Emerson, we love quotations. We enjoy reading them and using them in speeches, writings and when teaching. We feel that Winston Churchill's edict "It is a good thing for an uneducated man to read books of quotations" does not go far enough. We think it is good for educated people to read books of quotations also.

This book began when some members of Region III of the U.S. National Committee of OMEP edited a booklet of quotations as an activity to recognize the 1979 Year of the Child. That booklet was well received, as reflected in steady sales and many testimonials to its usefulness, and our research for this book began with selecting our favorites from it. Wilson Mizner is quoted in John Burke's *Rouge Progress* "If you steal from one author it's plagiarism, if you steal from many, it's research." We continued our research by looking at numerous books of quotations, collecting favorite quotations from professional colleagues, and scouring our own extensive personal collections of quotations. The hard part was making decisions. We are pleased to report that we are still close friends and that we had fun as we worked.

The quotations we have selected are intended to serve as a source of inspiration or, perhaps, a jolt of reality about what it is like to live with or teach young children. We hope you will find that some of the quotations produce the kind of chuckle that comes when we see ourselves through others. Some quotations are deliberately placed in close proximity to highlight similarities between the present and ages past, to add a touch of humor, or to demonstrate that we can learn from opposing viewpoints.

The true test of whether we were successful will be if this book is both enjoyed and used. If you *don't* like the book, well, we have a quotation for you:

"Be kind and considerate with your criticism. It is just as hard to write a bad book as it is good book."
Malcolm Cowley, quoted by Ken Kesey, New York Times December 21, 1989

If you *do* like the book, we hope you will use it often. We hope you will use it to help parents, teachers and others understand and appreciate children and their own role in working with them.

We think you will find the quotations suitable for parent newsletters, for staff meetings and for teacher training classes or speeches. Try putting a quote of the day or quote of the week on the bulletin board, or on the chalk board of a college classroom.

The quotations are grouped under three general headings, each with sub-categories. The categories are unavoidably arbitrary, as many quotations could fit in several places. The table of contents should help you to locate quotations by subject matter, while the index at the back should help you find quotations from a particular person.

We hope you will share our sentiment and, yes, you may quote us:

"We love using quotations. It's so much easier than trying to be witty or profound on your own."

Leah Adams and Patricia Kostell
August 1998

Children Childhood

The Child Among Us

Life is a flame that is always burning itself out,
but it catches fire again every time a child is born.
George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

I believe that each newborn child arrives on earth
with a message to deliver to mankind.
Clenched in his little fist is some particle
of yet unrevealed truth, some missing clue,
which may solve the enigma of man's destiny.
Sam Levenson (1911-1980)

If we wish to discover a pure being, a being who has neither philosophical ideas nor a political ideology and is equally removed from both, we will find this neutral being in the child.

Maria Montessori (1870-1952)

Infancy conforms to nobody—
all conform to it.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

A baby is an inestimable blessing and bother.
Mark Twain (1835-1910)

What gift has Providence
bestowed on man that is
so dear to him as his children?
Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

To me the life of a single child is worth
more than all of my music.
Pablo Casals (1876-1973)

Know you what it is to be a child?
It is to believe in love, to believe in belief,
It is to turn pumpkins into coaches.
And mice into horses, lowliness into loftiness,
Nothing into everything.
Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)

The first and foremost thing you can expect
of a child is that he is a child.
Armin Grams

It is hard to be brave when you are such a small animal.
Piglet, in Winnie-the-Pooh, A. A. Milne (1882-1956)

Her little girl was late arriving home from school so the mother
began to scold her daughter, but stopped and asked,
"Whey are you so late?"
"I had to help another girl. She was in trouble," replied the daughter.
"What did you do to help her?"
"Oh, I sat down and helped her cry."
Anonymous

Children think not of what is past, nor what
is to come; but enjoy the present time, which few of us do.
Jean de La Bruyere (1645-1696)

Children . . are the last candid audience left.
They don't care what critics say and they will let you
know immediately what delights and what bores them.
Gian Carlo Menotti

If we understand the mind of the five year old
we will understand human nature.
Howard Gardner

Every child is an artist. The problem is
how to remain an artist once he grows up.
Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)

Every child has a right
to its own bent.
George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

A child is like a piece of paper on which every passerby leaves a mark.

Chinese Proverb

Bill Cosby once said that a two-year-old could bring a nation to its knees. Believe it.

Erma Bombeck (1927-1996)

The best preparation for school is to [enable] the preschooler . . . to experience widely and intensely what is relevant and appropriate to that stage.

Lawrence K. Frank (1890-1958)

The rights of young children with disabilities are the same as all others in America. The law guarantees these rights.

Susanna V. Duckworth

For a child this young, only excellence is acceptable.

Anonymous

Children are remarkable for their intelligence and ardor, for their curiosity, their intolerance of shams, the clarity and ruthlessness of their vision.

Aldous Huxley (1894-1963)

The most deadly of all stings is the mutilation of a child's spirit.

Erik Erikson (1902-1994)

We do not know how to remedy the problems of children whose spirits are cut down out of season by deprivation in their early years.

Eileen W. Lindner

Man ought to be man and master of his fate, but children are at the mercy of those around them.

John Lubbock (1834-1913)

We pray for children . . . whose nightmares come in the daytime . . .
who aren't spoiled by anybody,
who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep . . .
for those who want to be carried and
for those who must . . .
for those we smother [with love] and for those who will grab
the hand of anybody kind enough to offer it.
Ina Hughes

The greatest terror a child can have is that
he is not loved; and rejection is the hell he fears . . .
John Steinbeck (1902-1968)

Across this nation, thousands upon thousands of
homeless children are growing up unnurtured,
unloved and uneducated. Homelessness,
hunger and pain [are] symptoms of a much bigger problem—
the loss of dignity and the loss of the ability to ever,
ever take "a step forward."
Sharon Quint

Children growing up on forgotten streets
in lost neighborhoods.
Children who learn to duck
before they learn to read . . .
children looking for something to believe in.
Leonard Pitts, Jr.

. . . we can hardly expect the child who has spent the
night in a chaotic shelter,
or on a cold and unyielding park bench,
to come to school eager and ready to learn.
James P. Comer and Norris M. Haynes

One thing is certain, though:
ghetto childhood tends
to be short and swift.
Robert Coles

Childhood shows the man as morning shows the day.
John Milton (1608-1674)

In the little boy . . . see the final man.
Chinese Proverb

The Child is the father of the Man.
William Wordsworth (1770-1850)

Children are people. They grow into tomorrow only as they live today.
John Dewey (1859-1952)

There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in.
Graham Greene (1904-1991)

In the first place, all of us were children once. We can never escape that fact. What happened to us then still influences what we are like now. Some of us may wish that things that happened to us in childhood had been different. Others may feel grateful on the whole for the experiences that were theirs. But whatever happened still matters tremendously.
Katherine Read Baker

Men don't know how to live together as men because they have not learned to live together as children.
Sylvia Ashton-Warner (1908-1984)

Indeed, the single best childhood predictor of adult adaptation is not IQ, not school grades, and not classroom behavior, but rather the adequacy with which the child gets along with other children.
Willard Hartup

Assume that children are basically good and provide opportunities for this goodness to flourish.
Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)

The Child at Play

There are games children must conjure up to combat an awful fact of childhood:
the fact of their vulnerability to fear, anger, hate, frustration.
To master these forces, children turn to fantasy—that imagined world
where disturbing emotional situations are solved to their satisfaction.
Maurice Sendak

It should be noted that children at play are not playing about;
their games should be seen as their most serious-minded activity.
Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)

Playing games is a very old and widespread way of learning.
The child first comes to understand the meaning of a rule.
James S. Coleman

Children seek access to . . . a place where they can dig in the earth, build huts and dens with timber, use real toys, experiment with fire and water, take really great risks and learn to overcome them.
Lady Allen of Hurtwood, Founder of OMEP (1897-1976)

The best fun follows a duty done.
Mary Litogot Ford, Mother of Henry Ford (1839-1876)

Play is practice for more serious behaviors.
Children do not play because they are young;
they have their youth because they must play.
Karl Groos (1861-1946)

Man does not cease to play
because he grows old; man grows
old because he ceases to play.
George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

What children actually do with play equipment is sometimes startling and different from what designers have in mind.
Jeannette Galombos Stone

Playgrounds—facilitating environments—
afford a viable alternative for TV and boredom and a major vehicle for learning.
Joe Frost

Play is a child's response to life—almost where life begins, play begins.
Play . . . is the way the child learns what no one can teach him.
Lawrence K. Frank (1890-1958)

It may be that the most common form of play for a period
(of a child's stage of development) is also the most
effective instructional strategy for that period.
Anthony Pellegrini

Play is not a passive, structured occupation.
For a child, play is an expression of his natural instinct to
develop his own potential, to discover himself and the world around him.
Like research at the adult level, it is an adventure, an experiment,
a source of intellectual, emotional and physical satisfaction
And like any adventure, it is not something to be found always
at the same time and in the same place and in the same way.
Lady Allen of Hurtwood (1897-1976)

It would be wrong to think he does not take his play seriously; on the contrary,
he takes his play very seriously and he expends large amounts of emotion on it.
Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)

Play is Mother Nature's clever way of insuring that young people (and old)
become educated of their own accord. It is always a form of experimental inquiry,
and the very business and lifeblood of childhood.
Neville V. Scarfe (1908-1985)

For children, play is as natural as breathing—and as necessary.
Mimi Brodsky Chenfeld

Raising the Child

Raising children is an uncertain thing, reached only after a life of battle and worry.
Democritus (460-370 B.C.)

Children are like kites. You spend a lifetime trying to get them off the ground.
Anonymous

Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children and no theories.
Lord Rochester (1647-1680)

Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do.
Benjamin Spock (1903-1998)

If you bungle raising your children, I don't think whatever else you do will matter very much.
Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis (1929-1994)

The single most important thing in human cultural behavior is literally and specifically the way we bring up our children.
Weston LaBarre

We learn many things from children. Patience, for instance.
Joseph Joubert (1754-1824)

I was doing the family grocery shopping accompanied by two children. An event I hope to see included in the Olympics in the near future.
Anne Quindlen

If only angels could raise good children, none of us would be parents.
James L. Hymes, Jr. (1913-1998)

Children need models more than they need critics.
Joseph Joubert (1754-1824)

Cooperation, generosity, loyalty and honesty are not inborn.
They must be passed on to a child by older people,
whether they are parents, other adults or older youngsters.
Urie Bronfenbrenner

Death and taxes and childbirth!
There's never any convenient time for any of them.
Margaret Mitchell (1900-1949)

Recognize that there are basic differences between males and females and provide different kinds of experiences for each.
Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)

When I was a kid, my parents moved a lot.
But I always found them.
Rodney Dangerfield

It is a wise father who knows his own child.
William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

Most American children suffer too much mother and too little father.
Gloria Steinem

No optimism can controvert the irrefutable equation that a father brings to his children what his children bring to the world.
Talmud

It doesn't matter who my father was;
it matters who I remember he was.
Anne Sexton

I remember my Dad best when he held me close to his heart and whispered, "I love you more than the whole world. You are my angel, my gift from God."
Sharon Quint

Any man can be a father. It takes someone special to be a dad.
Anonymous

My fathers planted for me and I plant for my children.
Talmud

The elephant does not find his trunk heavy, nor does the mother her babe.
African Proverb

A rich child often sits in a poor mother's lap.
Danish Proverb

There is no such thing as a nonworking mother.
Anonymous

In spite of seven thousand books of expert advice,
the right way to discipline a child is still a mystery to most fathers . . .
and mothers. Only your grandmother and Genghis Khan know how to do it.
Bill Cosby

We all start out like Mary Poppins. But somewhere along the line,
the washer breaks down, the gerbils form a city, and you realize the
high spot in your day is finding your comb in the toy box.
Erma Bombeck (1927-1996)

People are always rather bored with their parents. That's human nature.
W. Somerset Maugham (1874-1965)

Children aren't happy with nothing to ignore,
And that's what parents were created for.
Ogden Nash (1902-1971)

Children begin by loving their parents;
as they grow older they judge them; sometimes they forgive them.
Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)

Eating out with small children isn't worth it,
even when someone else is buying.
Anonymous

With the young child reason must be present . . . nothing happens in the world which is not connected with the child's own feelings, wishes, experiences.
Anna Freud (1895-1982)

The work will wait while you show the child the rainbow, but the rainbow won't wait while you do the work.
Anonymous

Whatever you do to your child's body,
you are doing to your child's mind.
Penelope Leach

How a child feels is more important than what he knows, because one's attitude and feelings control behavior while sheer knowledge does not.
Dell C. Kjer

In the little world in which children have their existence, whosoever brings them up, there is nothing so finely perceived and so finely felt, as injustice.
Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

The child must first learn self-respect and a sense of dignity that grows out of his increasing self-understanding before he can learn to respect the personalities and the rights and differences of others.
Virginia Axline

True, all children need to experience their competence to build self-respect. But each child needs to feel that his person is cherished regardless of his competence.
Dorothy Corkille Briggs

In the man whose childhood has known caresses and kindness,
there is always a fibre of memory that be touched to gentle issues.
George Eliot (1819-1880)

A torn jacket is soon mended, but harsh words bruise the heart of a child.
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

People will forget what you say. People will forget what you did,
but people will never forget how you made them feel.
Anonymous

(I have) some mother. Each morning she sits with me while I eat breakfast.
We talk about anything and everything.
She isn't refined or elegant, or even educated.
She's a terrible housekeeper and she uses double negatives.
But she's interested in everything I do.
She always listens to me, even if she's tired or busy.
15-year-old boy, interviewed by Delores Curran

You teach your son to think, not guess; Then find, perhaps with rue,
He learns to think with great success. But not the way you do.
Elinor K. Rose

If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder . . .
he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it,
rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in.
Rachel Carson (1907-1964)

Do not pray for gold—pray for good children, happy grandchildren.
Chinese Proverb

If I had known grandchildren were so much fun,
I would have had them first.
Anonymous

Taking care of their children, seeing them grow and develop
into fine people, gives most parents—despite the hard work—
their greatest satisfaction in life.
Benjamin Spock (1903-1998)

The best things you can give children,
next to good habits, are good memories.
Anonymous

Money can't buy the irrational kind of love that parents give.
Urie Bronfenbrenner

If we can solve the problem of getting a man on the moon,
we can expend the effort and solve the problem of helping our children grow.
Ira Gordon (1923-1978)

Since we human beings are the only species
with the ability to make choices,
to plan ahead, to reason, to carve out values,
it must follow that the human faculty we need
most importantly to encourage in our young is the ability to choose.
Sue Spayth Riley

One of the dumbest pieces of advice ever given to me by my kids is
"Don't worry." Are they crazy? That's my job.
It's listed on my driver's license in the space marked occupation.
Erma Bombeck (1927-1996)

Our words should be like a magic camera upon which a
child cannot help but paint a positive picture of himself.
Haim G. Ginott (1922-1973)

It isn't easy being parents of a six-year-old today.
However, it's a small price to pay for having someone
around the house who understands computers.
Anonymous

Give a little love to a child,
and get a great deal back.
John Ruskin (1819-1900)

My children often disagreed with me, thank God!
I'd no objection at all to their being disobedient.
Parents should remember that besides being parents,
they are also the bone on which the puppy can shape its teeth.
Peter Ustinov

Never ask a 2-year-old to hold a ripe tomato.
Anonymous

I hate housework! You make the beds, you do the dishes—
and six months later you have to start all over again.
Joan Rivers

Your child's first day at school will be a tearful occasion. For you.
Bruce Lansky

You know that having a baby has drastically changed your life when
you and your husband go on a date to Wal-Mart on double coupon day.
Linda Fiterman

Your sick child will feel a lot better as soon as the school bus leaves your stop.
Bruce Lansky

No one should ever claim the power to make
a child mortgage his today for the sake of tomorrow.
James L. Hymes, Jr. (1913-1998)

Respect the child. Be not too much his parent.
Trespass not upon his solitude.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

A child is owed the greatest respect; if you ever have something
disgraceful in mind, don't ignore your son's tender years.
Juvenal (60-140 A.D.)

Grown-ups never understand anything for themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and forever explaining things to them.
Antoine de Saint-Exupery (1900-1944)

If you strike a child, you merely drive more naughtiness into him.
American Indian Proverb

Seeing is different from being told.
African Proverb

Your child needs your love the most when he deserves it the least.
Erma Bombeck (1927-1996)

If you ask me, the most contagious childhood disease these days seems to be bad manners.
Bob Talbert

Children nowadays love luxury, have bad manners, contempt for authority, disrespect for elders . . . They contradict their parents, chatter in front of company, gobble up the food on the table, cross their legs and tyrannize their teachers.
Socrates (470-399 B.C.)

I do not love him because he is good, but because he is my little child.
Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)

Good manners will open doors that the best education cannot.
Clarence Thomas

The parent who did not depend on love to influence and mold the character of the child rather than force would be regarded not as a real parent but as a brute.
Clarence Darrow (1857-1938)

I have never observed that whipping does anything to children except make them either cowardly or stubborn . . . what you cannot accomplish by reason, prudence and skill, you will never be able to achieve by force.
Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)

It is better to be loved than to be feared.
Senegal Proverb

Children are natural mimics—they act like their parents
in spite of our efforts to teach them good manners.
Anonymous

Most of the so-called civilized world simply hasn't loved little children adequately enough, no matter what their holy books have said about love—if you've been pushed around as a child you are likely to grow up a pusher-around of others when you are an adult.
Ashley Montagu

Next to love, a sense of discipline is a parent's second most important gift to a child.
T. Berry Brazelton

. . . the child will have as an adult the imprint of his culture upon him
whether his society hands him the tradition with a shrug, throws it
to him like a bone to a dog, teaches him each item with care and anxiety,
or leads him towards manhood as if he were on a sight-seeing tour.
Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

Your children are not your children.
they are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.
Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)

Rear children to become constructive members of society.
Plato (427-347 B.C.)

There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children.
One of these is roots—the other wings.
Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)

When wings are grown, birds and children fly away.
Chinese Proverb

Education, Teaching Learning

Education for All Children

. . . The child is entitled to an education which will promote his general culture, and enable him on a basis of equal opportunity to develop his abilities, his individual judgment, and his sense of moral and social responsibility, and to become a useful member of society."
Declaration of the Rights of the Child, 1979

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.
William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

Education is the best provision for old age.
Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)

Education is not a race. A child who learns to read at age three has in no way "won" over a child who learns to read at age six or seven.
David Elkind

Education is the transmission of civilization.

Ariel Durant and Will Durant

The aim of education is to enable a man to continue his education.
John Dewey (1859-1952)

If autonomy is the aim of education the child must . . . be encouraged to act out of his own choice and conviction rather than docility or obedience.
Constance Kamii

The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives.
Robert Maynard Hutchins (1899-1977)

America's future walks through the doors of our schools each day.
May Lean LeTendre

A child's mind is like a bank—whatever you put in, you get back in ten years, with interest.
Frederic Wertham

Children have to be educated, but they have also to be left to educate themselves.
Ernest Dimnet

Nothing is more fundamental to solid education
development than pure uncontaminated curiosity.
Burton White

We want every youngster to come home from school every day
with his head held higher, proud as punch, feeling smarter.
James L. Hymes, Jr. (1913-1998)

America's future will be determined by the home and the school.
The child becomes largely what it is taught, hence we must watch
what we teach it, and how we live before it.
Jane Addams (1860-1935)

A school:
four walls with tomorrow inside.
Anonymous

The human infant is amazingly capable of compliance.
He can be shaped to . . . recite numbers at two,
read at age three, and he can even learn to cope with the
pressures that lie behind these expectations.
But children in our culture need someone who
will cry out "At what price?"
T. Barry Brazelton

Infants and young children are not just sitting
twiddling their thumbs, waiting for their parents
to teach them to read and do math.
They are expending a vast amount of time
and effort in exploring and understanding
their immediate world. Healthy education supports
and encourages this spontaneous learning.
David Elkind

The secret of education lies in respecting the pupil.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

Communities practicing inclusion of children
with special needs in regular classrooms gain citizens that
respect themselves and care about each other.
Patricia Hoffman Kostell

Above all things, I hope the education of the
common people will be attended to:
convinced that on this good sense we may rely
with the most security for the preservation
of a due degree of liberty.
Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)

Soap and education are not as sudden as a massacre,
but they are more deadly in the long run.
Mark Twain (1835-1910)

Education is learning what you
didn't even know you didn't know.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

When we escaped from Cuba, all we could carry was our education.
Alicia Coro

If you think education is expensive,
try ignorance.
Anonymous

Education is what survives when what has
been learned has been forgotten.
B.F. Skinner (1904-1990)

The best school, after all,
for the world of childhood,
is not the school where children
know the most answers,
but the school where children ask the most questions.
Joe Coe

In an educational experience that is truly shared,
choices and decisions have to be made
with the widest possible consensus,
and with a deep respect for a plurality of ideas and viewpoints.
Sergio Spaggiari

Education should help students think creatively,
see beyond themselves,
and relate learning to life's realities.
Ernest Boyer

The pressing need today is to educate
for an accelerating rate of change.
John W. Gardner

The principal goal of education is to create men
who are capable of doing new things,
not simply of repeating what other generations have done.
Jean Piaget (1896-1980)

We are now at a point where we must educate our
children in what no one knew yesterday,
and prepare our schools for what no one knows yet.
Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

Teaching Young Children

To teach is to learn.
Japanese Proverb

If you would thoroughly know anything, teach it to others.
Tyron Edwards

First learn, then teach.
Talmud

Even while they teach,
men learn.
Seneca, the Younger
(c. 4 B.C.-65 A.D.)

Everyone knows that those who
truly teach, gain steadily in
knowledge and insight.
Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852)

Personal teaching is putting
the person you are into
your teaching and
encouraging children to put
their persons
into their
learning.
J.T. Dillon

One of the beauties of teaching
is that there is no
limit to one's personal
growth as a teacher,
just as there is no knowing
beforehand how much
your students can learn.
Herbert Kohl

We teach not what we know
but who we are.
We can't hide who we are
and what we believe.
Mem Fox

No printed word nor spoken plea
can teach young minds what they should be,
not all the books on all the shelves
but what the teachers are themselves.
Mark Twain (1835-1910)

Teachers can change lives
with just the right mix of chalk and challenges.
Joyce A. Myers

I touch the future.
I teach.
Christa McAuliffe (1948-1986)

A teacher affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops.
Henry Brooks Adams (1838-1918)

I am teaching . . . It's kind of like having a love affair with a rhinoceros.
Anne Sexton

Housework is a breeze. Cooking is a pleasant diversion.
Putting up a retaining wall is a lark, but teaching is like climbing a mountain.
Fawn Brodie

Never despair.
Horace (65-8 B.C.)

After all, tomorrow is another day.
Margaret Mitchell (1900-1949)

When someone says "I'm a lawyer,"
you (a teacher) say
"I develop lawyers."
Thomas Moore

Teaching is a lot like acting. Teachers get evaluated by a very critical audience every day. And they have to write their own lines.
J. Edward Beach

Acting is merely the art of keeping a large group of people from coughing.
Ralph Richardson (1902-1983)

There's no business like show business.
Irving Berlin (1888-1989)

Those who undertake to teach several boys of differing capacities one and the same lesson are infinitely mistaken.
Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)

We teach what we learn, and the cycle goes on.
Joan Curcio

Even when budgets are mere shoestrings and supplies are limited, the primary instigators of learning always remain—children and their teachers.
Janet Brown McCracken

Why am I a teacher? Because I'm good at it! I choose it!
Romona Greschel

To love what you do and feel that it matters—
how could anything be more fun?
Katherine Graham

Happiness is not a goal, it is a by-product.
Eleanor Roosevelt (1885-1975)

It's my job to find the passion, to open eyes
and weave a web of intrigue and surprise.
Ginny Stiles

Teaching is often lonely . . .
Experienced teachers need opportunities
to use their intellect—to have serious discussions about
their work with each other and with advisors and experts.
Maja Apelman

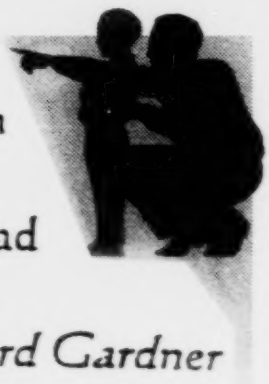
If you want to produce excellent teachers, they must see excellent teachers.
Lilian Katz

Teachers all over the world
have much to learn from each other.
Monroe Cohen and James Hoot

Good teachers cost more, but poor teachers cost most.
Anonymous

If you're planning for a lifetime—teach a teacher!
Howard Collub

Teachers need
to concentrate on
the heart
of teaching instead
of the peripheral.
Howard Gardner



Now, therefore, the superior
teacher leads his students and
does not pull them along. He
urges them to go forward and
does not suppress them. He
opens the way to them, but
does not take them to the place . . .
Now, if the process of
education is made gentle and
easy and if the students are
taught to think for themselves,
we may call the man (or woman) a good teacher.
Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught as that every
child should be given the wish to learn.
John Lubbock (1834-1913)

The teacher is,
among other things,
a friend to be trusted.
Marjory Ebbeck

The thing that a teacher should endeavor to induce in his pupils,
if democracy is to survive, is a kind of tolerance that springs from
an endeavor to understand those who are different from ourselves.
Bertrand Russell (1872-1970)

Whatever you can teach him from the nature of things themselves, do not teach
him by words. Leave him to himself to see, hear, find, stumble, rise again,
and be mistaken. Give no words when action or deed is possible.
What he can do for himself, let him do.
Johann Pestalozzi (1746-1827)

Don't force the child to learn, create a desire in him to want to learn.
Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)

You don't teach a child to think by telling him the answers.
Leah Adams

Include children's thinking in planning the curriculum.
Rosemary Althouse

Encourage curiosity, be patient in answering questions, make learning seem like playing.
John Locke (1632-1704)

Anger has no part in teaching.
Epictetus (60-138 A.D.)

Happy is the pupil whose
teacher approves his words.
Korean Proverb

When we instruct children in academic subjects, or in swimming, gymnastics, or ballet, at too early an age, we miseducate them; we put them at risk for short-term stress and long-term personality damage for no useful purpose. There is no evidence that such early instruction has lasting benefits and considerable evidence that it can do lasting harm.
David Elkind

Endeavoring to make children prematurely wise is useless labor.
Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

Teachers must enjoy what children do . . . equally important, they must be AMAZED at what they do."
Lilian Katz

One of the movements most productive of good in early childhood education occurred (1930-31) when the former International Kindergarten Union and the Primary Council decided to unite their forces in a new organization called the Association for Childhood Education . . . It is resulting today in common aims, purposes and curricula built upon knowledge drawn from each field.
Patty Smith Hill (1868-1946)

The best teachers are needed for young children.
Quintilian (1st Century A.D.)

Calm caregivers with a sense of humor and extra supplies of patience and admiration will find toddlers brave (though unsteady) adventurers on the rough trails toward independent, self-actualized functioning.
Alice Sterling Honig

The process of interacting with the children, not the content presented or placed around the children (is what counts).
David Weikart

The object of teaching a child is to enable him to get along without his teacher.
Elbert Hubbard

The highest-stakes test of all is our ability
(as teachers) to help children realize their full potential.
S.J. Meisels

Make sure you ascertain whether or not the student understands.
Epictetus (60-138 A.D.)

Teach thy tongue to say, "I do not know."
Korean Proverb

Everywhere I go, I'm asked if I think the universities stifle writers.
My opinion is that they don't stifle enough of them.
There's many a bestseller that could have been prevented by a good teacher.
Flannery O'Connor (1925-1964)

If women are expected to do the same work as men, we must teach them the same things.
Plato (c. 427-347 B.C.)

Judge students not by their memory but by their life.
Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)

When in doubt about the value of a decision, put the child's welfare first . . .
it is . . . the child's well-being that we must put ahead of every other concern.
Joanne Hendrick

A child's brain is a fire to be ignited, not a pot to be filled.
John Locke (1632-1704)

There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.
Edith Wharton (1862-1937)

Imparting knowledge is only lighting other men's candles at our lamp,
without depriving ourselves of any flame.
Jane Porter

Learning and Wisdom

I think therefore I am.
Rene Descartes (1596-1650)

All men by nature desire to know.
Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)

The real question is not whether machines think but whether men do.
B.F. Skinner (1904-1990)

You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.
Dr. Seuss (1904-1991)

For also knowledge itself is power.
Francis Bacon (1561-1626)

Learning is the best of all wealth; it is easy to carry,
thieves cannot steal it and tyrants cannot seize it.
Neither fire nor water can destroy it; and far from decreasing,
it increases by giving.
Naladiyar (c. 5th-6th century)

Do not call for black power or green power. Call for brain power.
Barbara Jordan (1936-1996)

Knowledge comes from noticing resemblances
and recurrences in the events that happen around us.
William Trotter

To learn something new, take the path that you took yesterday.
John Burghs

The more we know, the more we want to know;
when we know enough, we know how much we don't know.
Carol Orlock

All that we do is touched with ocean, yet we remain on the
shore of what we know.
Richard Wilbur

No man's knowledge here can go beyond his experience.
John Locke (1632-1704)

Most of what I really need to know about how to live,
and what to do, and how to be, I learned in kindergarten.
Robert Fulghum

Thinking is the hardest work there is,
which is probably the reason why so few engage in it.
Attributed to Henry Ford (1863-1947)

Nothing pains some people more than having to think.
Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)

A little learning is a dangerous thing.
Alexander Pope (1688-1744)

If a little knowledge is dangerous,
where is the man who has so much as to be out of danger?
T.H. Huxley (1825-1895)

Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous.
Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

To learn is natural pleasure . . . common to all men.
Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)

In our natures we approximate one another; habits put us further and further apart.
The only ones who do not change are sages and idiots.
Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

The really valuable factor is intuition.
Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

An inquisitive mind, a "nosey" mind, a what-where-when-how-why mind: this is an unusual mind, a curious mind. People nurture (or thwart) the curious mind.
Leland B. Jacobs (1907-1992)

One can never consent to creep, when one has the impulse to soar.
Helen Keller (1880-1968)

Discovery, like surprise, favors the well-prepared mind.
Jerome Bruner

A child's mind is not a sponge. It is more like a well-spring.
Alfred Devito

Minds are like parachutes. They only function when they're open.
Sir James Dewar (1842-1923)

Personally, I'm always ready to learn, although I do not always like to be taught.
Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

Advice is seldom welcome;
and those who want it the most always like it the least.
Lord Chesterfield (1694-1773)

Learning is to be a sport to young children.
'Tis better to be a year late in reading than that he should
[in] this way get an aversion to learning.
John Locke (1632-1704)

Where wisdom is called for, force is of little use.
Herodotus (485-425 B.C.)

Knowledge which is acquired under compulsion obtains no hold on the mind.
Plato (427-347 B.C.)

The information revolution has changed people's perception
of wealth. We originally said that land was wealth.
Then we thought it was industrial production.
Now we realize it's intellectual capital.
Walter Wriston

I do not believe that sheer suffering teaches.
If suffering alone taught, all the world would be wise, since everyone suffers.
To suffering must be added mourning, understanding, patience, love, openness
and the willingness to remain vulnerable.
Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Children have real understanding only of that which they
invent themselves, and each time that we try to teach them
something too quickly, we keep them from re-inventing it themselves.
Jean Piaget (1896-1980)

A free curiosity has more force in our learning than a frightful enforcement.
Augustine (354-430 A.D.)

Wonder is the beginning of wisdom.
Greek Proverb

Imagination is more important than knowledge.
Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

Imagination is a contagious disease.
It cannot be measured by the yard, or weighed by the pound and
then delivered to the students by members of the faculty.
It can only be communicated by a faculty whose members
themselves wear their learning with imagination.
Alfred North Whitehead (1861-1947)

The world is full of people who are not wise enough.
Jean de La Fontaine (1621-1695)

No one is wise at all times.
Pliny the Elder (23-79 A.D.)

Time for reflection is needed for learning.
Hippocrates (460-375 B.C.)

In each stage of child development . . .
there is a central problem that has to be solved . . .
if the child is to proceed with vigor and confidence to the next stage.
Erik H. Erikson (1902-1994)

The child advances toward
the truth in wide zigzags.
Kornei Chukovsky (1882-1969)

Thus a child learns;
by wiggling skills through his fingers and toes into himself;
by soaking up habits of those around him;
by pushing and pulling his own world.
Frederick J. Moffit

There is not a single idea known to the human mind
which is universal and therefore innate.
John Locke (1632-1704)

Now, what I want is facts . . . Facts alone are wanted in life.
Charles Dickens (1812-1870), Hard Times *(1854)*

I know nothing except the
fact of my ignorance.
Socrates (469-399 B.C.)

Much learning does not
teach understanding.
Heraclitus (c. 500 B.C.)

He is always right who says he makes mistakes.
Spanish Proverb

The only one who makes no mistakes
is one who never does anything!
Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919)

Real education should educate us out of self into something far finer;
into selflessness which lines us with all humanity.
Lady Nancy Astor (1879-1964)

If you believe everything you read,
better not read.
Japanese Proverb

How inappropriate to call this planet
Earth when it is clearly Ocean.
Arthur C. Clarke

Whether you think you can or
whether you think you can't, you're right.
Henry Ford (1863-1947)

It is better to ask some of the questions
than to know all the answers.
James Thurber (1894-1961)

I hear and I forget. I see and I remember.
I do and I understand.
Chinese Proverb

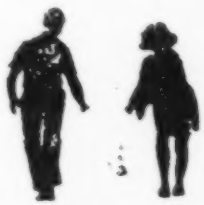
Families & Communities

The Universal Family

Family is the rock on which solid
education can and must be built.
Richard Riley

The strengths of a nation derive from the
integrity of the home.
Confucius (551-479 B.C.)

All happy families resemble one another,
but each unhappy family is unhappy
in its own way.
Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910)



It is easier
to rule a
kingdom
than to rule a family.
Chinese Proverb

America once expected parents to raise their children in accordance with the dominant cultural messages. Today they are expected to raise their children in opposition to them. Once the chorus of cultural values was full of ministers, teachers, neighbors, leaders. They demanded more conformity, but offered more support. Now the messengers are violent cartoon characters, rappers and celebrities selling sneakers. Parents are considered "responsible" only if they are successful in their resistance. That's what makes child-raising harder. It's not just that American families have less time with their kids; it's that we have to spend more of this time doing battle with our own culture.
Ellen Goodman

If we'd pay as much attention to families as we pay to firearms
and football, this country would be a lot healthier and happier.
Urie Bronfenbrenner

If we paid no more attention to plants
than we have to our children,
we should be living in a jungle of weeds.
Luther Burbank (1849-1926)

. . . much that is charming for children . . . and . . .
lent enchantment to the early years has been swept away.
In the high density areas, the modern homes are hygienic,
practical and well equipped, but every corner is utilized.
There are no delicious dark attics, no cupboards under the stairs,
no small private places where children can create their own
worlds out of their fertile imaginations.
We have swept away the garden where they might keep their pets,
or enjoy their hobbies, or bury their treasures.
Lady Allen of Hurtwood (1897-1976)

It just doesn't seem right to go over the river and
through the woods to Grandmother's condo.
Doug Larson

What is a home without children?
Quiet.
Henny Youngman (1906-1998)

People who quietly do their jobs, tend their children,
run the farms, fix shoes, cut hair and teach children
are the glue that holds the world together.
Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Children deserve to grow up anchored in their family and heritage . . .
finding cultural roots doesn't come easy . . .
children are entitled to their cultural heritage and to be proud of it.
Stacey York

. . . we were lucky enough to grow up in a
home environment where there was always much
encouragement to children to pursue intellectual interests;
to investigate whatever aroused curiosity.
In a different kind of environment our
curiosity might have been nipped long
before it could have borne fruit.
Orville Wright (1871-1948)

Is there a more secure place to be than drinking
hot chocolate in the arms of a loved one?
Jim Greenman

When I was at home, I was in a better place.
William Shakespeare (1564-1616)

A man's home is his castle.
English Proverb

The goat's stall in your own house is
better than your neighbor's house.
Arabic Proverb

There's no place like home.
American Proverb

Though a tree grow ever so high,
the falling leaves return to the ground.
Malay Proverb

The leaves never fall
very far from the tree.
American Proverb

The son of a duck is a floater.
Arabic Proverb

Like father, like son.
English Proverb

A brother is like one's shoulder.
Somalian Proverb

Brothers are like
hands and feet.
Chinese Proverb

When brothers split,
outsiders enter the breach.
Chinese Proverb

Children of the same mother
do not always agree.
Nigerian Proverb

Blood is thicker than water.
English Proverb

One would be in less danger
From the wiles of the stranger
If one's own kin and kith
Were more fun to be with.
Ogden Nash
(1902-1971)

My brother and I
against my cousin,
my cousin and I
against a stranger.
Arabic Proverb

You don't live in a world all alone.
Your brothers are here too.
Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965)

It is in our daily living together in the way we meet
the day-by-day situations that arise in every family,
that we pass on to our children the values we want them to learn.
Gladys Gardner Jenkins

One thing I learned from my father when I was
growing up was never to stop having fun in your family.
I never let my children feel that having fun is bad.
Damon Wayans

As a child,
my family's menu consisted
of two choices.
Take it or leave it.
Buddy Hackett

Mother was not a believer in fancy cakes for children.
She gave us plain,
wholesome food,
not so sweet to the taste,
but better for the health,
good bread and beef sandwiches.
Henry Ford (1863-1947)

Neither of my parents are intellectuals,
nor am I.
We're not given to deep analysis or self-analysis . . .
but . . . very basic integrity (was) always there . . .
(mother's) strength,
her belief that life is always good,
no matter how hard it is,
that you go on living your life
with honor has great value
and pursuing life with courage
is always worthwhile.
Ron Howard

The Global Community

We are all citizens of one world—
let us have but one end in view, the welfare of humanity.
John Amos Comenius (1592-1670)

What happens on one side of the global house
affects children on the other side and vice versa . . .
There is no place to hide from repercussions . . .
problems concerning environmental contamination, economics,
conservation of resources or the health and well-being of people.
Verna Hildebrand

The political climate in any society has an impact
on children's development.
The laws that are passed affect
all children and families.
Carol Seefeldt and Nita Barbour

My father told me "If you want to be respected by
people in your church and your community,
there are certain things you must do,
and certain things you cannot do."
James P. Comer

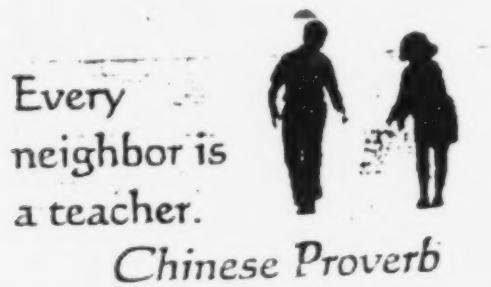
No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin,
or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate;
and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love,
for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.
Nelson Mandela

Schools cannot be ethical bystanders at a time when
our society is in deep moral trouble.
Rather, schools must do what they can to
contribute to the character of the young and
the moral health of the nation.
Thomas Lickona

Children are educated by what
the grown-up is and not by his talk.
Carl Jung (1875-1961)

For men and women are not only themselves;
they are also the region in which they were born,
the city apartment or farm in which they learned to walk,
the games they played as children,
the old wives' tales they overheard,
the food they ate,
the schools they attended,
the sports they followed,
the poems they read,
and the God they believed in.
W. Somerset Maugham (1874-1965)

For a child, the village must
remain personal . . .
What we do to participate
in and support that network—
from the way we care
for our own children to
the jobs we do,
the causes we join,
and the kinds of
legislation we support—
is mirrored every day in the
experiences of America's children.
We can read our national character
most plainly in the result.
Hillary Rodham Clinton



We cannot live for ourselves alone.
Our lives are connected
by a thousand invisible threads,
and along these sympathetic fibers,
our actions run as causes
and return to us as results.
Herman Melville (1819-1891)

A person educated in mind
and not in morals
is a menace to society.
Juanita Kidd Stout

If there is right in the soul,
There will be beauty in the person;
If there is beauty in the person,
There will be harmony in the home;
If there is harmony in the home,
There will be order in the nation;
If there is order in the nation,
There will be peace in the world.
Chinese Proverb

Children should be physically
safe in their communities,
and they should have opportunities
for accomplishment
at close intervals in their communities
and in their schools.
Richard Weissbourd

What the best and wisest parent
wants for his own child,
that must the community
want for all its children.
John Dewey (1859-1952)

A society that neglects its children,
its most valuable and vulnerable resources,
also neglects its future.
Edward Zigler and
Susan Hunsinger Muenchow

The Child and the Future

And so I ask, who, if not us, will nurture our children?
Who, if not us, will protect them?
Who, if not us, will assume responsibility for them?
Who, if not us, will assure them of their birthright?
Who?
Jawaharlal Nehru (1889-1964)

There is only one child in the world;
and the child's name is All Children.
Carl Sandburg (1878-1967)

Children around the world
have a common biological heritage.
They develop in the same sequences,
going through the same life cycle . . .
with minor variations . . .
what they play with
depends on their culture.
Verna Hildebrand

Let us not be blind to our differences,
but let us also direct our attention
to our common interests . . .
In the final analysis,
our most basic common
like is that we all inhabit the same planet,
we all breathe the same air,
we all cherish our children's future.
John F. Kennedy (1917-1963)

In our every deliberation,
we must consider the impact
of our decisions on the next seven generations.
The Great Law of the Six Nations
of the Iroquois Confederacy

The first cry of a newborn baby in Chicago or Zamboango,
in Amsterdam or Rangoon,
has the same pitch and key,
each saying,
"I am! I have come through!
I belong!
I am a member of the Family!"
Carl Sandburg (1878-1967)

We speak for all the children
Of all nations, all the lands,
Knowing well that in their common human core
Is more of likeness than of difference;
Knowing too that only as we reach that common core
In children
Will men, the world over,
Reach it in each other.
Agnes Snyder (1885-1973)

It always grieves me to contemplate the initiation
of children into the ways of life when they are
scarcely more than infants.
It checks their confidence and simplicity,
and demands that they share
our sorrow before they are capable of
entering into our enjoyments.
Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

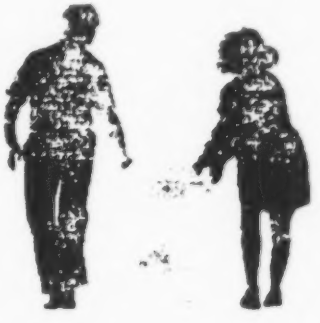
If we cannot make a world
in which children no longer suffer,
at least we can try to reduce
the number of suffering children.
Albert Camus (1913-1960)

Peace in the world right now requires that
those of us who care about children
invest in them the world over.
Marian Wright Edelman

The direction in which education
starts a man
will determine his future life.
Plato (427-347 B.C.)

A child is the only known substance
from which a responsible adult can be made.
Anonymous

Mankind owes the child
the best it has to give . . .
All children, without any
exception whatsoever,
shall be entitled to those
rights, without distinction
or discrimination.



Declaration of the
Rights of the Child, 1979

The future of the world
is in very small hands.
Ellen Galinsky

Of all the subjects of development, none has the acceptance, or the power to mobilize, as does the cause of children. Our children are our future.
Boutros Boutros-Ghali

If we are to reach real peace in this world . . .
we shall have to begin with the children.
Mohandas Gandhi (1869-1948)

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Olney, Maryland 20832
1-800-423-3563

U.S. National Committee of the
World Organization for
Early Childhood Education
(Organisation Mondiale pour
l'Education Préscolaire)

ISBN 0-87173-146-0